ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Three retardation compensators are provided for compensating the retardation of liquid crystal devices for red, green and blue light, respectively. Each of the retardation compensators is composed of plural high and low refractive index thin film layers alternately layered on a substrate. Because of the difference in the wavelength dependences of the liquid crystal device and the retardation compensator, the retardation R2 of the retardation compensator becomes much larger than the retardation R1 of the liquid crystal device in short wavelength region of the visible band. In order to match the retardation, the thickness of the retardation compensator for blue light is smaller than those for red and green light.